

National Herbarium, Howrah.

*E. grandifolius* was first described by Kurz in Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 41(2): 294. 1872 from Burma. Though the species has not been mentioned by Hooker f. in Fl. Brit. Ind. 1874. Brandis in Ind. Trees. 104. 1906 indicated the possibility of Kurz's specimen belonging to *E. rugosus* Roxb., which is known from Assam. However on the basis of critical diagnosis it has been possible to establish that the two species are distinct. This paper records the occurrence of *E. grandifolius* from Lakhimpur in Assam. As the description is not provided in Hook. Fl. Brit. Ind. 1874, a detailed description along with illustration is provided.

**Elaeocarpus grandifolius** Kurz in Journ. Asiat. Soc. Beng. 41(2): 294. 1872 et For. Fl. Burma 1:165. 1877; Brandis Ind. Trees 104. 1906.

An evergreen tree, 9-15 m high, girth 1-1.5 m, young parts rusty tomentose; bark thin, grey,

minutely postulate. *Leaves* very large 30-46 cm long c. 14 cm broad, obovate-oblong to obovate, minutely and remotely serrate-toothed, glabrous above, shortly puberulous beneath along the nerves, base acute or acuminate, cuneate; petiole thick, c. 5 cm long. *Racemes* axillary shorter than leaf; pedicels 1.5-3 cm, tomentose. *Sepals* c. 1.5 cm long, linear lanceolate, rusty tomentosa. *Petals* somewhat longer than sepals, appressed, rusty pubescent outside, 2-cleft, the lobes jagged. *Anthers* c. 8 mm long, tipped by a long arista. *Ovary* densely villous. *Drupe* oblong 3-5 cm in diam. *Pyrene* one, boney, deeply lacunose-wrinkled, somewhat compressed.

*Specimen examined:*

Jeypore Range, Lakhimpur (Assam), 26.6. 1934, R.O., Herb. Acc. No. 66530 (DD).

*Distribution:* Pegu Yomah and Martaban down to Tennasserim in Burma.

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#### 34. NEW AND INTERESTING PLANT RECORDS FROM MAHARASHTRA

From the plant collections made during the botanical explorations in Yavatmal District, Maharashtra State, 12 plants were found to be of interest, of which 10 were new records for Maharashtra and 2 have been collected after a lapse of a considerable period-about 4 to 14 (-) decades. They are enumerated below family-wise. The families have been arranged after Bentham & Hooker's system of classification. The herbarium specimens have been deposited

in the herbarium of Western Circle, Botanical Survey of India, Pune (BSI). The collector's name for all the specimens cited will be S. Karthikeyan unless stated otherwise.

##### VITACEAE

**Ampelocissus tomentosa** (Roth) Planch. J. Vigne Am. 374. 1883. *Vitis tomentosa* Heyne ex Roth, Nov. Pl. Sp. 157. 1821; Lawson in Hook. f. Fl. Brit. India 1: 650. 1875; Cooke,

Fl. Press. Bombay 1: 252. 1902.

Cooke (l.c.) reported this species from Dharwar, Belgaum and N. Kanara only. It is reported for the first time from Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* A shrubby climber on *Tectona grandis* L. f. Corolla pale-brown; filaments pale red, anthers yellow; ovary and style red. Fruits brown.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Khandala R.F., R. S. Rao 90970, 1-9-1963; Durg R. F., 149293, 21-9-1978.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Sept.

## FABACEAE

**Flemingia nana** Roxb. ex W. T. Aiton, Hort. Kew. ed. 2, 4: 350. 1812; Cooke, l.c. 1: 391. 1902. *F. congesta* Roxb. var. *nana* Baker in Hook. f. l.c. 2: 229. 1876 (as to the foregoing citations, but not as described). *Maughania nana* (Roxb. ex W. T. Aiton) Mukerjee, Bull. bot. Soc. Bengal 6: 20. 1953 ('*Moghania*').

Cooke (l.c.) reported this species from N. Kanara only. He also commented that it was a very rare plant in the Bombay Presidency. It is reported here for the first time from Maharashtra.

*Illus.:* Talbot, For. Fl. Bombay Pres. & Sind 1: 419, fig. 237. 1909 (as *F. nana*); Ic. Roxburgh. Fasc. 6: 6, Pl. 3. 1973 (as *Moghania nana*).

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 0.25 m. high, in humus soil, under shade of *Tectona grandis* L.f., on banks of dried up nalas. Inflorescence red-glandular. Calyx covered with red glands; standard petal brownish, wing petals brown with red veins, keel petals mauve. Rather rare.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Morchandi Felling series, Bittergaon Range, 148538, 23-12-1976.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Dec.-Feb.

## ASTERACEAE

**Chrysanthellum indicum** DC. Prodr. 5: 631. 1836; Hook f. l.c. 3: 310. 1881.

This species has not been reported by Cooke (1904) in "Flora of the Presidency of Bombay". Bedi & Thaker (1974) reported it from Gujarat. It is reported here for the first time from Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* Small herb, in open, humus soil, alongwith *Kyllinga tenuifolia* Steud., *Cassia pumila* Lamk., & *Alysicarpus* sp. Leaves pale beneath. Heads yellow. Rare.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Penganga Felling series, Kharbi Range, 160011, 5-8-1979.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Sept.

## LAMIACEAE

**Orthosiphon rubicundus** (D. Don) Benth. in Wall., Pl. As. Rar. 2: 14. 1831; Hook. f. l.c. 4: 614. 1885; Mukerjee, Rec. bot. Surv. India 14(1): 14(1): 25. 1940. *Plectranthus rubicundus* D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 116. 1825 ('*Plectranthes rubicunda*').

Cooke (1906) did not report it from the erstwhile Bombay Presidency. Mukerjee (l.c.) too does not report it from this area. This is the first record for the species in Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* Herb, in humus soil, as undergrowth in deciduous forest, along with *Tylophora fasciculata* Ham., *Scilla hyacinthina* (Roth) MacBride and *Curcuma pseudomonstana* Grah. Roots with fusiform tubers. Leaves crowded at the base. Main veins of leaves, raceme axis and sepals pale pinkish; corolla white; filaments white, anthers dark brown; style & stigma pale pink.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Majra Feeling series, Patan Bori Range, 160072, 8-8-

1979; East Gondwakadi R.F., 160187, 13-8-1979.

EUPHORBACEAE

**Bridelia montana** Willd. Sp. Pl. 4: 978. 1806; Hook f. l.c. 4: 269. 1887.

Cooke (1906) has not reported this species from the erstwhile Bombay Presidency. Present record of the species based on collections from Yavatmal Dist., Maharashtra is therefore an addition to Cooke's flora.

*Field notes:* A stunted tree from crevices of rocks on slopes. Fruits green, white speckled.

*Specimen examined:* Mahur R.F., on the border of Yavatmal and Nanded districts, 148532, 22-12-1976.

*Fr.:* Dec.

ARACEAE

**Amorphophallus sylvaticus** (Roxb.) Kunth, Enum. 3: 34. 1841. *Arum sylvaticum* Roxb. Fl. Ind. 3: 511. 1832. *Synantherias sylvatica* Schott, Gen. Aroid t. 28. 1858; Hook. f. l.c. 6: 518 1893; Cooke, l.c. 2: 829. 1908.

Cooke (l.c.) could not find any satisfactory evidence of this as a Bombay plant and hence he excluded it. Later, McCann (1941) collected it from Bhandup, Salsette Island, Bombay. Afterwards it has not been collected from Maharashtra. After a lapse of about 38 years, it has been located in the north-eastern part of Maharashtra, where it appears to be quite common.

*Illus.:* Wight, Ic. to 802. 1844.

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 0.75 m. high, in humus soil, under the shade. Stem green with white spots. Fruits green, ripening red. Common.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: East Gondwakadi R.F., 156523, 22-9-1978; Penganga felling series, Kharbi Range, 160019, 5-8-1979; Morchandi Felling series, Bittergaon

Range, 160035, 6-8-1979; Majra Felling series, Patan Bori Range, 160075, 8-8-1979.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Sept.

**Theriophonum minutum** (Willd.) Engl. Pflanzenr. IV, 23F: 105. fig. 15A-F. 1920.

*Arum minutum* Willd. Sp. Pl. 4: 484. 1805; Graham, Cat. Bombay Pl. 228. 1839.

Cooke (1908) did not report this species from erstwhile Bombay Presidency, though Graham (l.c.) listed it from S. Concan based on the authority of Nimmo. Since then, no collections have been made for the past 14 decades from Maharashtra including Concan. Presently, it is being reported from Yavatmal where it is quite abundant.

*Field notes:* Tuberos herb, under shade of teak plantations in humus soil, alongwith *Neanotis lancifolia* (Hook. f.) W. H. Lewis, *Justicia diffusa* Willd., *Sporobolus diander* (Retz.) P. Beauv. and *Curcuma pseudomontana* Grah. Spathe green. Female flowers at the base in a single row, green, stigma white; neuter florets above the female, dark brown; male flowers above the neuters, reddish-brown; above male flowers neuter florets present; appendage brown. Berries green.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Durg R.F., 149300, 9-9-1978; Morchandi Felling Series, Bittergaon Range, 160039, 6-8-1979; Hiwri R.F., 160170, 8-8-1979.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Sept.

CYPERACEAE

**Fimbristylis sieberiana** Kunth, Enum. 2: 237. 1837; Kern in van Steenis, Fl. Males. ser. 1, 7(3): 572. 1974; Shah & Suryanarayana, J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc. 66: 414. 1969.

Cooke (1908) has not reported this species from former Bombay Presidency. It has been reported by Shah & Suryanarayana (l.c.) from Gujarat. This is reported here for the first time

from Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 0.75 m high in marshy soil, on banks of nalas. Glumes rusty-brown; anthers cream or brown; styles green with brownish tinge. Abundant.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Wani-Mukutban road, 148420, 14-12-1976; Durg camp, 156506, 21-9-1978.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Sept.-Dec.

**Schoenoplectus litoralis** (Schrad.) Palla, Verh. K. K. Zool. — Bot. Ges. Wien 38, Sitzb.: 49. 1888 ('*littoralis*'). *Scirpus litoralis* Schrad. Fl. Germ. 1: 142, t. 5, fig. 7. 1806; Clarke in Hook. f. l.c. 6: 659. 1893; Cooke, l.c. 2: 894. 1908; Kern, l.c. 510.

Cooke (l.c.) reported this species from Sind and Gujarat only. Presently this has been collected in Maharashtra and hence reported here.

*Illus.:* Mahesh. Illus. Fl. Delhi fig. 227. 1966.

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 2 m high, in marshy soil, on the banks of river. Culm cylindrical. Glumes brownish-red with scarious margins; filaments white, anthers yellow; styles white. Abundant.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Penganga river, Kharbi, 149044, 13-2-1977.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Jan.-March.

**Scleria parvula** Steud. Syn. 2: 174. 1885; Napper in Hepper, Fl. W. Trop. Afr. ed. 2, 3 (pt. 2): 343. 1972; Kern, l.c. 746.

*S. tessellata* (non Willd.) Boeck, Linnaea 38: 470. 1874, p.p.; Clarke in Hook. f. l.c. 6: 686. 1894, p.p.; Cooke l.c. 2: 903. 1908, p.p.

*S. tessellata sensu* Clarke (l.c.) from India is a mixture of three species viz. *S. mikawana* Makino, *S. parvula* Steud. and *S. tessellata* Willd. So far, *S. parvula* Steud. has not been reported from Maharashtra and is reported here for the first time.

A key to differentiate *S. tessellata* Willd. from *S. parvula* Steud. is given below:

Lateral panicles erect; peduncles rigid, usually short; achene cylindrical to ellip-

soid-cylindric, 1.5-2 mm diam., glabrous, obscurely or distinctly striate-lacunose, the lacunae vertically elongated. *S. tessellata*

Lateral panicles pendulous; peduncles long and flexuous; achene obovoid-globose to oblong-ellipsoid, 1.5-2.2 mm diam., deeply and squarely lacunose, usually hairy on the walls *S. parvula*

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 0.75 m high, in marshy soil, on edges of streams. Blades sharp. Glumes green. Nuts green, ripening white. Common.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Jodhmoha grass farm, 156532, 22-9-1978; Pandharkawda-Bhiwkund road, 3 km. point, 156581, 24-9-1978.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Sept.

## POACEAE

**Brachiaria remota** (Retz.) Haines, Bot. Bihar & Orissa 1005. 1924; Bor, Grass. India, Burma & Ceylon 285. 1960. *Panicum remotum* Retz. Obs. Bot. 4: 17. 1786; Hook. f. l.c. 7: 38. 1896.

So far, this species has been found to occur only in Orissa and Tamil Nadu (Bor l.c.). Hence it is an addition to the Flora of Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* Herb, in humus soil, as forest undergrowth. Glumes green.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Majra felling series, Patan Bori Range, 160079 8-8-1979.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Nov.

**Themeda laxa** (Anderss.) A. Camus in Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris 26: 423. 1920; Bor, Grass. India, Burma & Ceylon 251. 1960. *Anthistiria laxa* Anderss. in Nov. Act. Sci. Upsal. ser. 3, 2: 243. 1856; Hook. f. l.c. 7: 1896.

This species has been previously recorded from Madhya Pradesh (Bor, l.c.) only. This is an additional species for the flora of Maharashtra.

*Field notes:* Herb, c. 1.75 m high, in cultivated fields, in open situations. Spikelets green.

*Specimens examined:* YAVATMAL Dist.: Yavatmal-Yelabara road, 156529, 22-9-1978.

*Fl. & Fr.:* Aug.-Oct.

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35. NOTES ON *VIOLA PILOSA* BL. (VIOLACEAE)

The plant, commonly known as *V. serpens* Wall. in the Indian Floras is *V. pilosa* Bl. Although Hook. f. et Thoms. in Fl. Brit. Ind. (1872) quoted *V. pilosa* Bl. Bijr. (1825) in the synonymy of *V. serpens* Wall. (1824), the diagnostic characters of *V. pilosa* were first published by Blume in his Cat. Grew. Buitenz. (1823). So the valid name of *V. serpens* Wall. ex Ging. is *V. pilosa* Bl.

*V. pilosa* is a very variable species and is common throughout the hilly regions of India. Larger forms grow in shady humid places and smaller forms in rock-crevices. *V. serpens* ssp. *serpens* var. *deltoidea* W. Beck. (TYPE: Shillong, C. B. Clarke 43494 in CAL!) and *V. serpens* ssp. *garhwalensis* W. Beck. (TYPE: Tihri-Gurhwal, Duthie 1178, CAL-lecto!) are considered here synonymous with *V. pilosa* being smaller forms of the same species. The

synonyms and citations of this species are given below:

**V. pilosa** Bl. Cat. Grew. Buitenz. 57. 1823 et in Bijdr. 57. 1825; Jacobs et D.M. Moore in Fl. Males. 7: 207. 1971, [—excl. syn. *V. glaucescens* Oud.]; Hara in Bull Univ. Mus. Univ. Tokyo 8:83. 1975—Type: Java, Blume s.n. L-holo, Photo. *V. serpens* Wall. ex Ging. in DC. Prodr. 1: 296. 1824; Royle, Ill. Bot. Himal 74. t. 18. f 1. 1834; Hook. f. et Thoms., Fl. Brit. Ind. 1: 184. 1872. *V. serpens* ssp. *garhwalensis* W. Beck. in Beih. Bot. Centralbl. Abt. 2., 34: 255. 1916, syn. nov. *V. serpens* ssp. *serpens* var. *deltoidea* W. Beck. *l.c.* 40: 105. 1923, syn. nov. *Fls.:* March to May; *Frts.:* May to July, often extending throughout the year.

*Distribution:* Throughout India; Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Ban-